President Scott's report to Board of Trustees regarding equipment purchase and request for building, 1888:

"The equipment of the department of physics has recently been reinforced with a steam engine of excellent workmanship and finish, and a six-light dynamo. The engine was loaned by the New York Safety Power company and the dynamo by the Thompson-Houston Electric Company of Lynn, Massachusetts.

The arrival of the new engine and dynamo have created a new necessity. We have no suitable space for them. They have been set up temporarily in the basement of the main building (University Hall) but we shall not leave them long in a location so unfit for continuous work. A separate building should be provided without unnecessary delay.

These timely additions have enabled the professor of physics to offer a special course in electrical engineering, thus meeting a demand that has often been made upon us."